

HANOVER FINANCE COMMITTEE

Statement on the Proposed Dresden School District Warrants for FY16

The Dresden Finance Committee (DFC) was an appointed committee composed of the seven members of the Hanover Finance Committee (HFC)¹ — including one member of the Hanover Selectboard and one member of the Hanover School Board — and the seven members of the Norwich Finance Committee. Last year, the Town of Norwich disbanded the Norwich Finance Committee, so the DFC has been unable to meet. In the absence of a DFC, the HFC has been overseeing the development of the Dresden School District budget for FY16 (2015-16).

The HFC's recommendation to the Dresden School Board (DSB) and school administration at the beginning of the FY16 budget development process was that the DSB adopt a budget that provides for an increase in expenditures of no more than 2.6% for FY16 (2015-16).

The proposed Dresden School District budget for 2015-16 falls within that guideline, with a 2.12% increase in expenditures over the FY15 Dresden budget.

During a public meeting on January 26, 2015, the HFC unanimously voted to support the proposed FY16 Dresden School District budget of \$24,631,237 (Warrant Article 4). The principal role of the HFC in the school budget process is to advise Hanover and Norwich residents on the budget's affordability and fiscal prudence. Given that the budget met the HFC's expenditure guidelines, the Committee recommends that residents support this warrant article.

The Hanover Finance Committee also voted unanimously to support the remaining Warrant Articles.

¹ The members of the HFC are Heidi Postupack (Chair), Kristi Fenner, Michael Gerling, Daryl Press, John Ruth, Jay Buckey (Board of Selectmen representative), and Leah Wheelan (Hanover School Board representative).